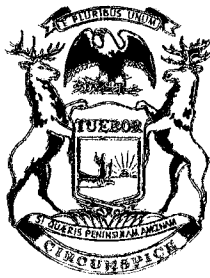


# STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive  
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor

## CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
hereby proclaim November 2004, as

### Adoption Month

**Whereas,** There is nothing more precious to Michigan than the growth and development of our youth, who will determine the future direction of our state; and,

**Whereas,** In this state, thousands of children live away from their birth families in substitute care; and,

**Whereas,** Thousands of these children cannot return to their birth families and need the security and encouragement that a permanent family can provide; and,

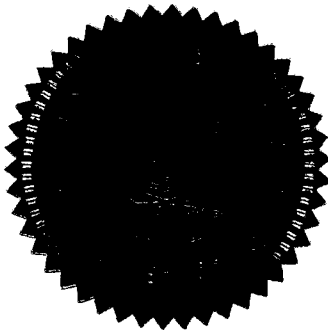
**Whereas,** Adoption is a permanency plan for most of these children; and,

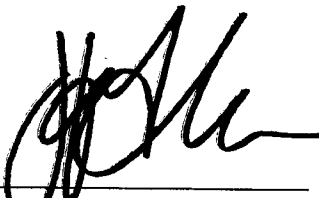
**Whereas,** Nearly all of these children have special needs as a result of physical, mental, or emotional impairments, needing to be placed with siblings, families of a specific minority status or age group; and,

**Whereas,** In 2003, 2,611 children with special needs achieved finalized adoption with families in our Great Lakes State; and,

**Whereas,** Children waiting for adoptive parents, and families require and deserve community and public agency support; and now therefore be it,

**Resolved,** That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim November 2004, as Adoption Month in Michigan.



  
Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor